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—IN the death of the U. S. Commisioner of Fisheries the Hon. Marshall MacDonald, the country loses a very efficient officer. It is to be expected that an equally competent man shall succeed him.

—WE must again remind our contributors that the most certain way of getting separate copies of their papers is to communicate with the publishers directly; and the most direct method of doing this is to write their wishes on the copy which goes to the printer.

RECENT LITERATURE.

Rambles in Alpine Valleys.¹—In this little book Mr. Tutt gives the impressions of a naturalist while exploring the valleys on the Italian side of the Mont Blanc range. Especial attention is given to the insect life, and in describing their habits and habitats, many problems are suggested for discussion. These are touched upon lightly, but never slightly, the object of the author, as stated in his preface, being to explain simply and clearly, without going deeply into scientific technicalities, the scientific bearings of some of the facts that came under his notice during a holiday spent in that region. The book is very pleasantly written and well repays perusal by the lover of nature and of scenery. Among naturalists it appeals especially to entomologists.

Five plates gives some idea of the scenery in the valleys visited.

Lead and Zinc Deposits of Missouri.²—This report is published in two volumes of nearly 400 pages each, the subject being treated under three heads. Part I is a general discussion of the history, compounds, modes of occurrence, distribution and industry of lead and zinc throughout the world. Part II deals with the lead and zinc in Missouri. Part III is a systematic and detailed description of the important developments and occurrences of lead and zinc ores in the state of Missouri. Accompanying the report are two papers having a bearing upon the subject: A study of the Cherts of Missouri, by E. O.

¹ *Rambles in Alpine Valleys.* By J. W. Tutt. London, Swan., Sonnenschein & Co., 1895.

² *Missouri Geological Survey Vols. VI and VII. Report upon the Lead and Zinc Deposits.* By Arthur Winslow, assisted by J. D. Robertson. Jefferson City, 1894.